The Tannīn's Roar

A Commentary on the book of Job chapters 38-42

Yuri Rogaev

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Introduction

"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth." Job 19:25

The book of Job for the most part is written in a poetical form, which helps it transcend from a normal book into a fascinating art form that is comparable to the Psalms.

Filled with many word illustrations and images, God's beautiful features are carefully crafted and written down to showcase some of the best Hebrew poetry of Israel.

The most prevalent image in the book of Job is a setting in a court of law. Job believing himself to be right, challenges his 3 friends, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar, but his main accusation is toward God.

"If I summoned him and he answered me, I would not believe that he was listening to my voice. For he crushes me with a tempest and multiplies my wounds without cause; he will not let me get my breath, but fills me with bitterness." (Job 9:16-18)

Job demands for someone who is in authority, an arbitrator to bring him and God together to consider all the relevant facts and render a verdict, collecting all the evidence that would point to what everyone already knew... Job did not deserve to suffer like he has. And that was Job's ultimate complaint with Almighty God: Why was he convicted and received punishment without a fair trial?

The book of Job can be easily divided into three parts:

1. The introduction, that starts in heaven, showing us a glimpse of the behind the scenes of the spiritual realm, leading to the testing of Job.

2. The great debate of Job and God's opinion and resolution of it.

3. The restoration of Job, illustrating the faithfulness of God.

The narrative begins with a test, as God allows the tempter, the Devil to have his way with Job, to put Job through terrible suffering so that God might be blasphemed.

Job at first passes the test with great endurance, but once the story progresses and his heart begins to become unraveled, Job loses his temper with God, and falls into great pride, showing the humanity of Job. That same weakness manifests in every single person created by God, and the purpose of this book is to help us, when we reach our breaking point, to show what Job learned in his trials and to see that God is indeed just, righteous, and most importantly loves us very much.

The book of Job starts with great loss and suffering, but it ends with a happy ending where Job's journey of faith, submission and all his unsatisfactions being met from a sovereign and caring God.

Chapter 1

"Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me."
(Job 38:1-3)

In the previous chapters of Job, one of Jobs friends and councillors actually prepared Job for the coming storm that appears in Chapters 38-41.

Elihu, likened God's power as the Autumn thunder storm (36:32-33), the Winter Ice Storm (37:9-10), that would warm up to the blowing winds of the Spring season (37:12), and finishing the seasonal cycle into the Summer heat (37:17).

But how Elihu judges Job's spiritual condition was very different on how the Lord judges.

When Elihu said Job loved sin (36:21), God said Job is His servant and *"a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil".*

That God would start speaking to Job out of a "whirlwind" is no accident, for it was because of a great wind that Job's children perished in. (1:19).

This “whirlwind” would teach to Job that our God can work out His sovereign plan even in the middle of a storm. Though at times we cannot understand the tragedies of life, we cannot forget God’s sovereign presence in our lives.

There is an undeniable truth that God is in control during disasters and in various calamities just as much as He is in control during the many blessings of our lives.

Both Elihu and Job actions teach an important lesson, we are to be careful in how we counsel people on God, for we might just "darken counsel by words without knowledge".

If not careful we can easily make the darkness of another person even more dark. God says "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers; for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness” (James 3:1).

Some things we simply cannot comprehend about the spiritual reality, and in those times God calls us to simply trust and obey.
Job is called here to be still, to listen to what God wants to teach him. By saying dress for action like a man, Job must now understand that the time for spiritual maturity is at hand. Job must grow up.

We are all called to serve and worship the Lord, to use every spiritual gift God has bestowed upon us in His sovereignty to help the Church fulfil it's great commission to glorify God.

All of God's Children have a responsibility to " to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15) and to "work heartily, as for the Lord, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23-24)

For we all one day like Job, "must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil" (2 Corinthians 5:10).
But the rewards for a successful job are truly wonderful, the treasures of heaven itself are for us to take, as the classic hymn says:

"God in heaven hath a treasure,
Riches none may count or tell;
Hath a deep eternal pleasure,
Christ the Son, He loveth well.
God hath here on earth a treasure,
None but He its price may know—
Deep, unfathomable pleasure,
Christ revealed in saints below."

Chapter 2

Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? "Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb,"
Job 38:5-8

Job proclaimed to his 3 friends, that he was able to teach them on the ways of almighty God, proudly claiming "what is with the Almighty I will not conceal" (Job 27:11).
But when God searched Job's heart, He humbled him into submission, as we all would be when our prideful hearts meet the all knowing Lord of all the earth.

There is an important truth in the Bible, that nothing is hidden from God's sight. Like Adam and Eve, we all stand naked before God.

Job apparently forgot that and let his pride tell him that his human knowledge would have all the answers. Listen to the cry of the Psalmist: *"Search me, O God, and see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" (Psalms 139:23-24)*

It's always better to have God examine our hearts now in the time of grace, rather than later in the time of judgement.
God would now give Job a test on various subjects, Job failed on every question, no human being was ever around when God laid the foundation of the earth, Job knew nothing about its measurements or its foundation.

God here tells us that the earth has been carefully designed, the oceans and seas delicately calculated and measured by God.
The universe has to be one of the greatest engineering achievements ever designed.
If we who have eyes to see the stars and planets cannot comprehend everything about the earth now; then how could we possibly explain the plan of God which we cannot see?

It's not the only time we get to see rhetorical questions used to express how great is God's incredible power in regards to his creation. Read sayings of Agur the Oracle in Proverbs 30:

"I am weary, O God and worn out. Surely I am too stupid to be a man. I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One. Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in *his fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is*

his name, and what is his son's name? Surely you know!" (Proverbs 30:1-4)
Do we have the same fear of God and His word? Have we discovered how little we know of the Eternal God? Give praise today and everyday to the lord that He reveals anything to us! And what could be anything greater than the name of God's only Son.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given...and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). A virgin *"she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)*

Dear reader, listen to the words of Jesus and be encouraged:

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live!". (John 11:25)

"I love the name of Him whose heart,
Knows all my griefs, and bears a part;
Who bids all anxious fears depart,
I love the name of Jesus."

Chapter 3

"Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'? -Job 38:8-11

No matter how ferocious something is, or how unstoppable our present situation claims to be, God is infinitely mightier than it.

Even the unruly sea bows down before the Lord of Hosts, in what was an uncontrollable, catastrophic event suddenly made obedient at the command of the almighty God.

God likens this event to a baby wrapped in a swaddling band, the idea is to help the baby slowly transition from the tight, comfortable space of a mother's womb, and into the outside world.

Mary wrapped baby Jesus and laid him in a manger, like the custom of the day, which showed that Mary was a loving and caring parent.

But before Mary thought of even doing this, God in his sovereignty had already decreed it in His prophesy to the shepherds*: "This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger (Luke 2:12)".*

God's care reaches into every dimension of our life, an awesome attribute displaying He is a loving, devoted Father to all of His creation.

As the Psalmist writes about our God:

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars ; he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord ; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. The Lord foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations." (Psalms 33:6-11)

Just like the unbelieving world may plot and rebel against God, God overrides their plans with His own, He sets the limits on how far they can come, and how powerful their "waves" can be stayed. No matter if it be

some man-made disaster, or nature being nature, God is always in command.

Jesus the God-Man demonstrated this when He calmed the sea just by speaking to it (Mark 4:39). In that story the disciples were travelling by boat into the sea, all of them were experienced fishermen, yet even they knew the storm was serious and things were getting rough. And like many of us when we encounter disaster, they questioned Jesus whether He truly loved them or not. But in God's divine plan for the disciples this turned into a lesson that they would never forget, that this miracle was for them to finally understand and believe that Jesus was God, and he indeed deeply loved them.

Are we still asking the same questions of the disciples, "*Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?*" or have we finally come to grips on just who our dear Lord and saviour is? Let us always remember that in the trials that we experience, they are always under the control of God and are designed to help us grow in our faith so that we can better love our Lord, and have a wonderful, eternal relationship with Him.

Chapter 4

"Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken." Job 38:12-15

Scientists are able to do so many things today, from microbiology, to computer technology, and so it has become a popular opinion of our day that smart people don't need God.

That is why these chapters in Job are so important, God in His eternal wisdom still speaks and rebukes the wisdom of men.

Throughout the known history, mankind has counted their days in various ways, by looking at the stars above them, ancient people could see that the stars in their sky had a pattern, in that they would rotate through a long cycle, as when the earth is on one side of the sun, the stars during the night therefore would be different

from those seen on the other side. From this their methods evolved into making calendars, some used Lunar calendar, while others used Solar calendars. The Jewish people followed the Lunar calendar, meaning the month begins at the new moon, and their day ends and begins at sundown. Today in our western culture we follow the Gregorian calendar, and we have 24 hour days.

Job had previously said that wicked people are in direct rebellion against the light, and that the deepest part of the night is their morning. They love ally themselves with the terrors of the darkness (24:13,17). They believed that darkness was their friend who could cover up their evil deeds.

But God now says, indeed it may appear that deep darkness is the friend of the wicked, but He who is the commander of the sunrise and caused the dawn to know its place – then also determines the fate of the wicked, and the reality is that the wicked have no friends with either the darkness or the light.

But we are not like those who walk in the dark, "For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge

of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6).

God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (Psalm 119:105).

Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Let us remember the words of God to Daniel:

"And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever." (Daniel 12:2-3)

Chapter 5

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea?"(Job 38:16)

There is a recurring picture that the sea produces danger, just think about how powerful the sea is.

The idea of the sea is that it's massive and incomprehensible. In the ancient near eastern civilization, the people at that time thought of the sea as a symbol of chaos, evil and darkness.

People did not go on vacation into the sea, because it was a big and scary place, with death being almost certain if going unprepared to uncharted territories.

It represented that which was the dark side. The Canaanites worshipped the God of the Sea, "Yamm" which they named it from the word "sea" that is mentioned here. This prompted the Israelites to tell them "God is Lord over land and sea".

"And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Jonah 1:9

In Colossians it is written of Jesus Christ that *"by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through Him and for Him"*

Apostle John writes *"All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made"*

There are many people in this world who want to dethrone God from His creation, to give credit to another, be it to nature or to another god.

But this is the God that we worship, and we will continue to worship Him into all eternity!

"O Thou Who madest land and sea,
And guidest all, in all their ways,
Who hearest those who bring to Thee
Their sacrifice of prayer and praise;
Oh, hear Thy children as they bring
Themselves a lowly offering!"

Author: Godfrey Thring (1881)

Chapter 6

"or walked in the recesses of the deep?"(Job 38:16)

The biblical word "deep" brings with it the meaning of darkness and secrecy. It was first seen on the first day of creation: *"The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep".*

The prophet Micah once said: *"He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."(Micah 7:19)*

While we often see things in a limited way, God works on a limitless scale, the depths of the sea picture a place that is unreachable, so are our sins if we are in the family of God.

The Bible *says "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:12-13).* Salvation is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, eternal life is something that is not earned, but received as a gift.

The book of Revelation speaks of a time where there would be no more oceans and seas (Revelation 21:1), it's absence indicates the new heavens and the earth will have nothing that is perilous, unpredictable, or tumultuous as the fearsome body of waters do that encompass our earth, but on top of that God also promises more:
There will be no more death, no more mourning, weeping, pain (Revelation 21:4), curses (Revelation 22:3), and night (Revelation 21:25; 22:5).

With so much blessing from God, we can only echo the words of Apostle John:

"The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

"He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen. (Revelation 22)

"Out of the depths I cry to Thee;
Lord, hear me, I implore Thee.
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me;
my pray'r let come before Thee."
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
who will at last His people free
from all their sin and sorrow.

Author: Martin Luther (1524); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863)

Chapter 7

Have the gates of death been revealed to you? (Job:17)

In Ancient Mesopotamian writings, anyone who visited the netherworld passed through a series of seven gates. Job was written during the time of Abraham, and among the ancient manuscripts and scrolls that Biblical archaeologists had uncovered, Job was written using a very ancient Hebrew that came from Egyptian letters, called the Paleo-Hebrew Script.

Therefore it is quite possible that what is referred here in Job are some of the earliest ideas about the Underworld. In the New Testament, the underworld is called "Hades", in Matthew 16:18 Jesus describes it like a mighty city with its gates representing its power. He then encourages us by saying *"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*

Revelation 9 uses some very graphic language to describe things that are really indescribable. The chapter says that when the pit was opened, smoke was pushed out by infernal heat mixed with immense pressure. It is hell itself spewing out all of its corruption

and pollution. It was so immense that the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit.

There is a lot of unknown about the Gates of Death, and it certainly can be frightening, but let the words of our Lord comfort us:

"Jesus said "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades"

Revelation 1:18

He burst death's bars asunder, and He triumphed o'er the grave;

He holds the keys of hades, the almighty One to save;

"Behold my hands," said Jesus, "I'm your living Lord and King;

From the grave I will redeem you; all my jewels I will bring."

Author: G. W. Sederquist (1871)

Chapter 8

"or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?" (Job 38:17)

In one of the most well-known verses in the Bible (Psalm 23), it speaks about walking in the Shadow of death, or if literally translated "the valley of deep darkness". The Hebrew word for “shadow of death” and "gates of deep darkness" is sal-ma-wet, which means "dark shadows" or “darkness”. It has the same root as the Hebrew word for “death” (ma-wet).

"The dead tremble under the waters and their inhabitants. Sheol is naked before God, and Abaddon has no covering." Job 26:5-6

In the Bible and in traditional Jewish theology, the underworld is described as a bottomless pit where the fallen are placed, and where Lucifer will be spending his eternity, *"But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit." (Isaiah 14:15)* . In the Old Testament it's the Hebrew word "Sheol" and it refers to a subterranean place of the dead, that according to tradition contained an upper chamber for believers and a lower chamber for unbelievers. (Luke 16:22-23)

In New Testament it's called "The Abyss", the Greek word is "abussos" and it refers to the abode of fallen spirits, the place of demons, and the prison where demons are kept imprisoned.

Peter said *“God did not spare angels when they sinned,” (2 Peter 2:4)*, referring to fallen angels – *“but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness.”*

The term here that Peter uses for Hell is the word tartaros (Tartarōsas), which can be interpreted as the “deepest of all pits” or the “lowest part of Hades.” In the Greek tradition this word referred to an underworld place that was even lower than the grave, a place for the most evil, wicked, and rebellious beings to receive the worst and the most severe punishment.

In the Jewish faith, a person’s character and what their moral stance was are said to be reflected through their eyes, which is what Jesus was teaching when He said *"The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness." (Matthew 6:22-23)*

Spiritual darkness is everything that goes against the light of God’s love in Jesus.

And this is exactly what our Lord and Saviour brings to this world when He floods light into the spiritual darkness of the sinner’s heart, giving them a new life.

Are you imprisoned in the deep darkness? Then let the light of God’s love and truth shine into your heart, Jesus who could give light to the blind, can also give spiritual light to you.

Chapter 9

"Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this." (Job 38:18)

Astronomers say the "known" universe contains trillions of stars, with the most distant of galaxies being billions of light years away. Every year they encounter more information on new planets, stars, solar systems, and galaxies. Yet the universe remains infinitely large and very much incomprehensible. To put this in perspective, if the sun was the size of a basketball, the size of our planet would be the size of a poppy seed.

Possibly while being a young shepherd, working in the starry night, looking up at the expanse of the earth, untroubled by troubles that would soon follow him, King David proclaimed:

"When I consider . . . the moon and the stars, . . . what is man that You are mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:3-4).

We can all relate to that can we? To marvel at God's creation, and be in struck with profound amazement at how tiny we human really beings are. It would be scary

if it wasn't for the fact that God cherishes us, like a Father to His children. The answer to “what is man?” is answered by only one name: Jesus Christ. Apart from the cross we would have no understanding of who we are and what is our spiritual purpose in this life.

Romans 1:20 says “For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”

This tiny “pebble” that is our home feels like it has big problems such as plagues, wars, loss, and we all can feel like Job and question if God is really there during our suffering.

Next time you have feelings of insignificance, remember that Christ *“loved me and gave Himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).* The vastness of the universe reminds us of the immensity of God's love for His children. Consider today your relationship to Jesus Christ, remember the words of our Lord:

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not,

therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."
(Matthew 10:29-31)

Chapter 10

"Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? You know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great!"
Job 38:19-21 ESV

At the beginning of God's created universe, darkness was over the face of the deep (Genesis 1:1-2), God in demonstrating His power spoke it into existence, but where did it come from? Where is the place of darkness? Job for sure does not know, and neither do we. But we do know where light comes from, Apostle John in his epistle proclaims to us that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5). God tells Job can you find your way home to the light? Can you figure out how to get to heaven? Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12).*

Praise be to God that He so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16.)

Chapter 11

"Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?" (Job 38:22-23)

The Bible often speaks that God uses weather that He keeps in his divine treasury: *"He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses."(Psalms 135:7)*

He uses it for times of trouble, and for days of war, to right wrong and triumph over evil.
One of the most famous example was during the ten plagues of Egypt:

"Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the Lord rained hail upon the land of Egypt." (Exodus 9:23)
And then once again during the time of Joshua, when God fought on behalf of His people:
"And as they fled before Israel, while they were going down the ascent of Beth-horon, the Lord threw down large stones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and

they died. There were more who died because of the hailstones than the sons of Israel killed with the sword." (Joshua 10:11)

God promises to open His storehouses to bless and protect His people, for example in Deuteronomy 28:12 it says: *"The Lord will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands"*

It is a fearful thing to become an enemy of God. But what a relief to anyone who is part of the family of God, The book of Romans says *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:3)*

Are you still rebelling and opposing the Almighty Lord? Scripture says: *"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6)*

Repent and become right with God while the Lord is still merciful. Any disrespect towards God, such as idolatry, blaspheming as a way of life, disobedience will come to an end. Remember history of the Babylonians who captured the people of God:

"But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until

the wrath of the Lord rose against his people, until there was no remedy." (2 Chronicles 36:16)

Let the Bible speak to you today as you Heed the words of Jesus Christ:

"So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them." (John 12:35-36)

Don't wait for Jesus to hide from you!

Chapter 12

"What is the way to the place where the light is distributed" (Job 38:24)

In context, God so far has been teaching Job on the different aspects of nature, from the formation of the earth, the seas, and in the verses currently on the different parts of the weather, from ice, snow, rain, wind and lightning.

What is the origin of light? For this we have to read the first chapter of Genesis, where verse 1 says, *"Darkness was over the surface of the deep,"* it's at this point in time we see that God had not created any light because up to now there was no created light, and darkness was spread over everything.
The earth was uninhabited, shapeless, and there was no light at all, only total absolute darkness. Therefore God created the first day. From this part of creation light was distributed around the whole earth, and a cycle of days and nights was made, there were now periods of light and periods of darkness.

From this point forward the earth began rotating on its axis, and there was a source of light on one side of the earth corresponding to the sun (which wasn't created

until later) and there was darkness on its opposite side. The obvious question is then *"But how could there be light without the sun?"* The answer is we don't know, and that is the point God here makes to Job, who also had no clue.

But here is what we do know. We know that God wraps Himself *"with light as with a garment." (Psalms 104:2)* He *"dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see" (1 Timothy 6:16).*
It is impossible for a sinful person to approach the Holy God. God in various times allowed some people like Jacob and Moses to see a tiny glimpse of this glory, but the full essence of God can only be seen in the person of Jesus Christ.

God brought forth light to a place where there was only darkness. This same God can take you out of the domain of darkness and transfer you to the kingdom of His beloved Son.

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:8-10, 13)

Chapter 13

"or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth?"
Job 38:24

The east wind mentioned here is part of the winds that are local to the Sahara desert, therefore it's also called the hot east wind (Job 15:2), because it blows from the east which is the direction of the great desert. It appeared in one of Pharaoh's dreams (Gen 41:6) , where it scorched stalks of grain, which it typically does when it withers many kinds of vegetation when it blows in from the desert in the early fall and in the late spring seasons.

These hot east winds have a modern technical name: Sirocco winds.
God used this Sirocco wind to judge Israel when He sent a *"A hot wind from the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people*" *(Jeremiah 4:11-12).* These winds often pick up sand and dust and eventually become sandstorms.

Because these common winds would change direction seasonally, the term "east wind" was also used establish the process of orientation, which at the time came from looking and facing the sunrise, this would

help in determining what we would call today the four cardinal directions (north, east, south, and west).

The wind was also used by the ancient farmers to their advantage, as it had its part during the winnowing step of harvesting grain. The grain would be tossed in the air with winnowing forks (see Jeremiah 15:7), this was done so that the wind would blow away all the straw and the loose, outer covering on the wheat, that is called the chaff (Psalm 1:4). The purpose of this was to separate what was edible from all the inedible parts of the grain, and to separate any remaining pieces of the seed's dried-up exterior.

Orientate yourself today on the Lord Jesus Christ, who is "the way, the truth, and the life", unless you want to meet Him unrepentant when he comes as the divine "winnower":

"His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
(Matthew 3:12)

Chapter 14

"Who has cleft a channel for the torrents of rain and a way for the thunderbolt, to bring rain on a land where no man is, on the desert in which there is no man, to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground sprout with grass?" (Job 38:25-27)

As Job is being questioned by God, let's not forget that these questions are also applicable to us. Why would God turn the spring and autumn rains into something dangerous as hail and into lightning? Why turn something as peaceful as an afternoon rain into something that is frightening, something that can even start fires?

Can we explain why God sends rain to areas where nobody lives? Why are the most beautiful flowers found in the most inaccessible places? How about the most peculiar creatures inside the deepest caves of the ocean? How can organisms survive inside a boiling volcano? For whom were the barren planets designed for?

Why do the waves able to listen to Him? During the ferocious storm on the sea, Christ calmed down the storm with the words, “Quiet! Be still”. He later told the

Pharisees *“the stones will cry out” (Luke 19:40).* Even the rocks know who our Lord is.

God has a mysterious relationship with the natural world that we simply cannot comprehend. Look at the birds of the air for example, they neither work nor able to support themselves, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.
Consider the lilies of the field, they neither toil nor spin, but yet they still thrive and are able to grow.

This makes us ask the question*: "Are you not of more value than they? If God clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?" (Matthew 6:26-31).*

When our Lord would reign on earth, it will be a worry free existence for all of God’s people. However, until that time there will inevitably be times in our lives when we will experience worry and distress. That is why we all need to remember the principle in *Philippians 4:6-7:*
“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which

surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

When we find ourselves anxious, we need to pray for it is prayer that can set us free from worries to so easily plague us.

Chapter 15

"Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? (Job 38:28)

The latitude of Israel could be compared to that of Georgia in the USA, and the climate is heavily influenced by its proximity to the Mediterranean sea on the west and the desert like conditions to the east in the appropriately named "Middle East".

Israel has 2 major seasons, first the rainy season that lasts from October through April, and secondly the dry season from about June through September.

It's during this summer season that the days become warm and the nights become cool, and moisture that comes from rain is very rare. Israel is therefore known to generally be a very hot place, where the temperature can quickly rise to extremes after sunrise. Much of the vegetables and fruit, such as figs, grapes, melons, and the many variety of crops would dry out and die if not for an amazing phenomenon.
Before the sunrise and after sundown, Israel experiences a phenomenon where the air cannot hold anymore water vapor, and this then spills and begins to be collected on various surfaces, which would later form into droplets that we call "Dew".

This dew provides a much needed moisture to the local agriculture in the area.
High altitude places near to the sea like Mount Carmel (literally "helping gardens grow") experience considerably more dew than say Mount Gilboa, which even King David mentioned when he said:

"You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor fields of offerings!" (2 Samuel 1:21)

As we move south into the Philistine Plain and more into western Judah, precipitation will start to decline, which leads the locals there to search for a deity that would bless them with their crops, such as when the Philistines sacrificed to the "grain fish god" Dagon. Sadly their faith was misplaced, as Dagon was nothing more than an inanimate object who could never receive their sacrifices.
In 1 Samuel 5, the Ark of the covenant fell into the hands of the Philistines, it was here that God showed that He alone is to be worshiped, and sacrificed to when He broke Dagon into pieces.

Just as there was only one place for atonement of sins in the Old Testament—the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant, there is now therefore only one place for atonement in the New Testament and it's at the cross of Jesus Christ.

"But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption." (Hebrews 9:11-12)

Chapter 16

"From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the frost of heaven? The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen." (Job 38:29-30)

From previously speaking about the Summer and Autumn rains, now God turns to Job and asks him about the winter hail and frost. If Job could not understand who "fathered" the rain, how was he supposed to understand how ice was "born"?
Hail storms and snow storms are a rare sight in Israel, but nevertheless they happen, because God can make anything happen. God's word accomplishes it's purpose, even to make snow in the desert.

"The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Isaiah 35:1-2, 6-7, 10)

Chapter 17

"Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion?"
Job 38:31

The sky is divided up into many groupings of stars that we call constellations.
In astronomy a group of large stars is referred to as clusters of stars. Only 3 known star clusters are visible to the naked eye, they are: Nephelion ("small cloud") written about by Hipparchus (circa 130 B.C), Hyades (from ancient greek mythology), and lastly the Pleiades (which can be seen practically on every part of the globe near the winter/spring season).

The Pleiades appears three times in the Bible, in Job it is often translated as “the Pleiades,” and in Amos 5:8 it's translated as “the seven stars.”

The Hebrew word translated “Pleiades” in greek is "kiymah", meaning “heap” or “accumulation.” Perhaps the Pleiades appeared to ancient Jewish astronomers as a little heap of stars. While the Orion word is "Kesil" (literally means fool).
In Genesis, we read about Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord who established many kingdoms, one

of them being Accad in the land of Shinar (modern day Mesopotamia, found in Genesis 10:9-10).
Theories have been proposed that the hebrew word might of originated in the Accadian language ("saklu" for fool), and then came to Arabic, where the word "kasila" which means "slow-moving". But as to why "Kesil" was translated to Greek as Orion is still unknown.

What we read here describes real astronomical bodies, God is communicating to Job in practical terms about real objects that Job Himself could see with the technology of his day, his naked eyes!

When God here says Job could try to bind or loose the cords, He is talking about gravity, where these so called divine chains, or cords hold together all those stars in the night sky.

What indeed is the phenomenon we call gravity? And how is able work across all of the universe? Many attempts thoughout scientific history have been made to explain gravity, from things called "gravitons" to "dark matter", but none of them have ever been confirmed to even exist.

In the Bible Jesus Christ is the one who is before all things, and in him all things hold together (Colossians 1:17). He is also the one who upholds the universe by the word of his power, because He is the radiance of

the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature (Hebrews 1:3).
We might not know the exact workings of Gravity, but we do that God holds the universe together, and that also means He holds our life together.

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)

Chapter 18

"Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children?"
Job 38:32

The Hebrew word Mazzaroth often translated as "constellations". Because it is part of the Hapax Legomenon, which means it only appears once in the Bible, therefore a true definition of this term is very difficult to establish. Throughout history, various schools of Jewish traditions ascribed to it the meaning of "fortune", even carrying it all the way into modern Yiddish language, the famous term often found in English culture as "Mazel Tov".

Scholars who translated it as constellations often use a similar Hebrew word, Mazalot taken from 2 Kings 23:5: *"those also who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and the moon and the constellations (Mazalot) and all the host of the heavens." (2 Kings 23:5)*

Likewise the meaning of bear faces the same fate, it may in fact be a very real reality that no original Jewish traditions on the meaning of these 2 words has survived. Which is fine. In the Bible God allows Astronomy, the science of studying the heavens, but He strictly forbids Astrology, the interpretation of stars to

decide one's destiny such as found in the many Zodiacs of the world.

God does not allow His people to worship or serve the "*host of heaven" (Deuteronomy 4:19)*. This however, did not stop Israel in their rebellion, as their worship of the stars brought God's wrath each time.

May we learn from their mistakes, we can be in awe of the heavens, be amazed at God's infinitude, but let us not practice any pagan Horoscopes and Zodiacs.

"When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, O Lord , our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"
Psalms 8:3, 9

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."
Psalms 19:1-2

Astronomy shows us that God is in control of everything that is in the vast universe, it shows His power to create amazing things, God's Glory as revealed in the heavens should move us to a greater worship, and give us a feeling that we are one step closer to heaven each and every day.

Chapter 19

"Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule on the earth?" (Job 38:33)

The answer to the question that God asks Job here is: absolutely not! The continued existence of the heavens and the earth is due to the supporting will of God. From controlling the gravity that without we would all fly away into space, to controlling the moon which influences the tides, to the motion of the earth that impacts earthquakes and volcanoes.

It might seem like the earth is in dire straits today, with pollution dominating most of the world, animal extinction at an all time high, natural resources used and abused until there is nothing left, life threatening chemicals added to our foods and lifestock just to produce enormous yields of food, nuclear resources stockpiled to an insane amount, it's a wonder our planet is still here! But Nature does not fail, because God does not fail them. God is still on the throne, and like our Lord and Savior said:

"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18)

Chapter 20

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that a flood of waters may cover you?" (Job 38:34)

When water vapor (gaseous water) changes into a liquid, it becomes what scientists call "condensed moisture", on the way down to earth this moisture encounters some warm temperatures, which through the process of evaporation changes it into the gas phase, that in turn reverts it back into vapor, which then slowly starts rising back into the air. When this method of evaporation and condensation is repeatedly done, and then saturated with air, it produces the beautiful clouds that we see in our skies.

"The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew."
Proverbs 3:19-20

David described God as the one who *"rides upon the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice." (Psalms 68:33)*

Like any proficient horse rider, God also able to ride with the clouds.

God has already spoken to Job from a storm, but soon *"you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." (Mark 14:62)*

We often desire for blue skies instead of dark and stormy clouds.
When Job had encountered his Lord, it immediately changed his perspective on God's purposes.

Do dark clouds fill your skies today? Sooner than you think, these stormy clouds will open up and make way for royalty, because Jesus Christ is coming soon to be your King of Kings!

"He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"
Revelation 22:20

Chapter 21

"Can you send forth lightnings, that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?" (Job 38:35)

Scientists today theorize how thunder clouds are formed, but it's still not fully understood how clouds become charged and is still a much debated phenomenon.

The most popular observation is that when raindrops in the air begin to be tossed by strong winds, these drops rub against each other exchanging electrons.
In Chemistry anything that has weight is called "Matter". This matter is made up of units called "Atoms" which are like the building blocks of everything. Breaking atoms up even further results in "Protons and Electrons". A proton holds a positive charge, while an electron a negative charge.
Similar to rubbing a balloon on your head which then builds up static electricity, when an atom loses either protons or electrons, a separation of charges occurs which results in static electricity. When all this static builds up through friction, it causes a "static discharge", a release of static electricity. Lightning is caused when this static shock energizes the atoms of the gases in the air, causing a spark which in turn produces spectacular lightning.

The Bible says God is the one that decides when and where lightning strikes:
"Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles." (Psalms 97:2, 4)

Lightning and thunder are a picture of God's voice:
"he thunders with his majestic voice, and he does not restrain the lightnings when his voice is heard. God thunders wondrously with his voice; he does great things that we cannot comprehend. Do you know how God lays his command upon them and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?" (Job 37:4-5, 15)

If we see the flash of lightning in the sky, we also expect the booming sound of thunder to follow.

When this happens meteorologists recommend for people to find a low area away from trees and poles, and to crouch head down, bend forward with hands on your knees to stop your chances of becoming a lightning conductor.

What a beautiful picture of the Christian life, when faced with thunder storms of life, humble yourself to prayer on your knees, and letting lightning rod that is

the cross of Jesus Christ take the full impact of the thunder of sin.

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!" (Psalms 34:8)

Chapter 22

"Who has put wisdom in the inward parts or given understanding to the mind?" (Job 38:36)

Reading the life of King Solomon, we read that every 3 years he would import large quantities some of the most amazing animals of the world, such as *"apes, and peacocks, and thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom." (1 Kings 10:22-23).*

Solomon when writing in his proverbs would say this:

"Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel." (Proverbs 12:10)

It would seem Solomon did not only do this to increase his knowledge of nature, but to also express a spiritual desire to mirror the heart of our Creator. This wisdom in our inward parts imparted to us from God helps us to understand that loving God's creation can lead to loving people.

Chapter 23

"Who can number the clouds by wisdom? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods stick fast together?"
Job 38:37-38

There are a number of different types of clouds in the sky. Each cloud is associated with a different type of weather and it's Latin name gives hints about it's composition and height.

- Fluffy clouds are called cumulus (means heap or mass) clouds. They often look like your everyday cotton balls, and mean fair-weather is upon the land.
- Nimbostratus clouds are called as such because they tend to "spread out" and cover most of the sky. When you see one, it means rain or snow is coming!
- Clouds that have flat tops and look like towers in the air are called thunderheads and it's technical name is cumulonimbus and they often produce thunderstorms.

God is here telling Job if he can with his earthly wisdom tip the clouds like they are wine jars and pour them onto the earth. There are many examples in the Bible where drought could only be quenched by God's mighty hand.

God judged the evil king Ahab using his servant Elijah to prophesy drought upon the whole land. This forced Elijah to go up against the prophets and their fake god Baal, who was known to be the "lord of the rain clouds".

All day long, those false prophets would try to call upon Baal to rain fire from heaven, but all of it in vain. Not long after this victory over the false prophets, Elijah began to pray, as we are told in James to be an example for us of what a righteous prayer is:
"Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit." (James 5:18)

But the biggest and most dangerous drought is found in Amos:

"Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord God , "when I will send a famine on the land— not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord . They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the Lord , but they shall not find it. "In that day the lovely virgins and the young men shall faint for thirst." (Amos 8:11-13)

This is a spiritual drought, when the land is full of religions, but no true word from the Lord! Indeed, the time to memorize scripture is today, do it and blessings surely will come!

"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord ; teach me your statutes! I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word."(Psalms 119:11-12, 16)

Chapter 24

"Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in their thicket? (Job 38:39-40)

In days gone by, the Lion would often make its home all over the near east, it then should not surprise us that the people of the day would look at a lion's majestic appearance and it's fierce, brave, courageous bearing and apply those same attributes to their heroes.

In the Bible a Lion is often used in a simile and in metaphors, using figures of speech to compare one thing with another. In most of the near eastern cultures the Lion would play a large part in their various arts and crafts.

The earliest known evidence of Lions near Biblical regions comes from Herodotus, an ancient greek historian who wrote in 440 B.C about lions living in Greece.
But over the next 500 years Lions would become rare and by 100 B.C endangered with only a few remaining throughout the rest of the Palestinian region for the next century.

A lioness is capable of giving birth to a litter of 2 or 3 cubs, the mother then prepares a hiding place where the cubs feed on their mother's milk, as she then provides leftovers of Zebras, Gazelles for their young appetites, until when they reach the age of maturity at about 2 years of age.

In the Bible Jesus is called the Lion of Judah (Revelation 5:5). This type of messianic symbolism runs throughout the scriptures, painting for us a picture of Savior King cub being taken care of by his mother while being born in a shelter for various farm animals, to at second coming of Christ, when Jesus is described as the ultimate king of the jungle, the King of Kings who will destroy His enemies and reclaim His Kingdom. (In Revelation 19:16)

In the Holy Scriptures we get to see many different kinds of metaphors and images to describe an indescribable God, one of which is a powerful roaring lion who retakes what is rightfully His, demonstrating His complete and full authority of all creation.

"They shall go after the Lord ; he will roar like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west" (Hosea 11:10)

As we wait upon the Lord, we are given hope that comes through the reminder in Isaiah 11 of what this new kingdom of God would look like:

"Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them." (Isaiah 11:5-6)

Chapter 25

"Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God for help, and wander about for lack of food?"
Job 38:41

The word that's used here for Raven takes its roots from the Hebrew word for black.
"His head is the finest gold; his locks are wavy, black as a raven." (The Song of Solomon 5:11)

The ravens are capable of eating a wide range of food, from frogs, lizards, to even locusts, often in gruesome manner as the scriptures speak of them:

"The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be picked out by the ravens of the valley." (Proverbs 30:17)

The crow being a predator shares the same scavenging habits of the many birds of prey, but in actuality it belongs in it's own category of the bird family.
Because Ravens eat the decaying flesh of dead animals, they are placed on the list of animals that are banned to eat. The Law of Moses commands God's people to abstain from consuming unclean animals:

"You may eat all clean birds. But these are the ones that you shall not eat: the eagle, the bearded vulture, the black vulture, the kite, the falcon of any kind; every raven of any kind." (Deuteronomy 14:11-14, Leviticus 11:15)

It's quite fitting that God's law protects the ravens to be consumed by people, but what's more, he provides for them when they cry out for God to help:

"Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!" (Luke 12:24)

"He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love. Praise the Lord , O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! "Psalms 147:9-12

The Raven is an ambassador for all the birds of the air, as it's the first bird to be named in the Bible, when *"At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth." (Genesis 8:6-7)*

We who are Children of God, who have been bought back from sin into the family of God, forgiven and blessed abundantly are now therefore:

"Ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:20-2)

Chapter 26

**"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you observe the calving of the does?
Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch, bring forth their offspring, and are delivered of their young?
Their young ones become strong; they grow up in the open; they go out and do not return to them. (Job 39:1-4)**

Zoology, the science of studying animals should be a very important part of our Christian education, it can bless us in many ways, for example showing us just how much the bible speaks about animals. The taming of animals has been the command of God starting all the way in the Garden of Eden to the celebration of Passover.

"And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:28)

By studying animals we often get to see how much God loves the animals, and how he cares and takes care of them.
As soon as the offspring of the goat reach the age of maturity, it leaves its mother forever and does not return to them, with no human life in the rugged mountains to domesticate them, making it necessary for the goats to become completely dependent on God's provision to survive.

But there is also another aspect to studying about God's zoo, and that is just how God puts the many human characteristics in each animal.

The mountain Goat's inner beauty is often described as unruly, rebellious and stubbornly independent animal who refuse to follow anyone anywhere, but their outer beauty is very much praised:

"Turn away your eyes from me, for they overwhelm me— Your hair is like a flock of goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead." (The Song of Solomon 6:5)

In the scriptures Sheep are identified as being pure and white, while the goats as all black (Genesis 30:33). This type of distinction would lead Jesus to say this:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory...then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered

all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:31-34, 41)

Jesus when identifying himself as a Shepherd showed that He came for even the weakest and most humble of all animals. Are you God's sheep destined for eternal life, or would you rather choose to be the devils goat cursed forever?

Chapter 27

"Who has let the wild donkey go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift donkey, to whom I have given the arid plain for his home and the salt land for his dwelling place? He scorns the tumult of the city; he hears not the shouts of the driver. He ranges the mountains as his pasture, and he searches after every green thing." (Job 39:5-8)

The Wild Donkey mentioned here is believed to be the Nubian Wild Ass, which used to roam in different variations in the ancient near eastern world. It's name comes because of its proximity to the Nubian Desert of the north east, which is modern day Sudan. Based on Biblical archaeological data it is assumed to have also lived between the Nile River and the Red Sea, Nubia being the ancient kingdom of Kush, who were ancestors of Ham (Genesis 10:6), and eventually Nimrod, the founder and king of Babylon (Genesis 10:9-10).

The wild donkey was considered to be hard to control and to direct; being very stubborn and hard to work with. Ishmael was termed the *"wild ass of a man."(Genesis 16:11–12)*
It was later in Hebrew history that it lost its "wild" moniker and became a common domesticated animal,

where it faithfully served for thousands of years as a riding animal, known for their humility and gentleness.

Therefore it is quite appropriate that Jesus used a donkey to carry Him into Jerusalem.
All types of Donkeys had to be imported from elsewhere because of the biblical prohibition on hybrid breeding and the donkey being an unclean animal.
"You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together."(Deuteronomy 22:10)
While this might be a strange commandment, God did this to help the donkey survive as a species, since an ox is much stronger than a donkey, which would result in unnecessary cruelty.

God would famously use a donkey to speak with the false prophet Balaam, that story is found in Numbers 22.

"Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness."(2 Peter 2:15-16)

Even a wild donkey is under the sovereign control of our God, if God can tame this wild beast, He can tame any wild soul.

"who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."
(2 Timothy 1:9-10)

Chapter 28

"Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will he spend the night at your manger? Can you bind him in the furrow with ropes, or will he harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on him because his strength is great, and will you leave to him your labor? Do you have faith in him that he will return your grain and gather it to your threshing floor?" Job 39:9-12

The Wild Ox mentioned here is a distant relative to our modern domesticated Ox. Its technical name is "Aurochs", and it has been extinct since 1627, when the last recorded specimen died in Jaktorów Forest Reserve in east-central Poland. A memorial still stands to this very day.
In Israel it became extinct even much earlier, as far as the Old Testaments times, likely due to the desert land offering limited forest cover, where the Wild Ox could feel safe.
The Bible pictures an ox in 2 ways, as a characteristic of effective power and as a symbol of unintelligent, brutish strength.

Representing the earthly potential of strength and ability, it is often humbled by the total supremacy of God who thwarts it's every attempt of rebellion against him.

"The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider." (Isaiah 1:3)

God reminded Job of the characteristics of the Ox, as He did for the other animals, teaching Job that God was above and beyond anything in power and strength.

Oxen are also used to teach us to respect and to care for world:

"you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field."(Psalm 8:6-7)

But it's not only after animals that we should care for, twice Apostle Paul uses an illustration of the Ox to teach us to care after the church.

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves his wages."(1 Timothy 5:17-18)

Using an Old Testament principle, Paul speaks of ministers who offer up their loyal service should not *"be degraded in your sight."(Deuteronomy 25:3):*

"For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned?

Does he not certainly speak for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop.

If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more?

Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ." (1 Corinthians 9:9-12)

Chapter 29

"The wings of the ostrich wave proudly, but are they the pinions and plumage of love? For she leaves her eggs to the earth and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them and that the wild beast may trample them. She deals cruelly with her young, as if they were not hers; though her labor be in vain, yet she has no fear, because God has made her forget wisdom and given her no share in understanding. When she rouses herself to flee, she laughs at the horse and his rider." (Job 39:13-18)

The ostrich is a very peculiar bird, known for hiding their head in the sand, which is a made up myth. A very independent bird, it can survive in steppe, dry pasture land, and even in a desert environment by storing water to prepare itself for many months of drought. This bird was apparently very popular to all Biblical writers, since there are about 2 different Hebrew words for ostrich!

- In Lamentations 4:3, the word ye'enim is thought to mean "greedy", perhaps because it's known to eat rocks, a highly undesirable object to help it with digestion. In Hebrew traditions such as the Jerusalem Talmud, it is said this ability of the ostrich to swallow

anything was used to refine Gold; if you feed it bits of gold wrapped in dough, its gastric juices would be able to do this job.

- The word in Job 39:13 "kenaf-renanim" means "to enjoy oneself", literally translated as "the feather that shows off its beauty to the eye". While the Ostrich has wings and feathers, they are not exactly the same as of that of a stork, which are much superior in their beauty, and enable it to fly.

Often represented as a cruel animal, especially in relation to her young, it's able to lay about 20-30 eggs in her sand nest, and as the 42 day incubation period expires, “she leaves her eggs to the earth and lets them be warmed on the ground" as God speaks of it.
"Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young; but the daughter of my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness."(Lamentations 4:3)

On the surface this might seem cruel, but this is by God's design to provide food to the baby ostriches. All the alone time without it's mother, prepares them for the harsh life that is the wilderness.

A “wilderness experience" is nothing new in the Bible, the people of Israel, when leaving Egypt after Passover, experienced a journey through the desert wilderness, our Lord Jesus Christ was *"was led up by the Spirit into*

the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1-2)

And of course Job himself experienced his own wilderness experience.
As Christians we sometimes forced to wait on the Lord, search for God's peace during difficult times and through this journey mature in our walk with God.

"We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies." (2 Corinthians 4:8-10)

Chapter 30

"Do you give the horse his might? Do you clothe his neck with a mane? Do you make him leap like the locust? His majestic snorting is terrifying. He paws in the valley and exults in his strength; he goes out to meet the weapons. He laughs at fear and is not dismayed; he does not turn back from the sword. Upon him rattle the quiver, the flashing spear, and the javelin. With fierceness and rage he swallows the ground; he cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet. When the trumpet sounds, he says 'Aha!' He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting." (Job 39:19-25)

Where would our society be without these awesome animals? Horses pulled many of the plowing equipment that were used on farms, replacing the sheep, goats, oxen, and donkey, who were much too slow. Horses are known as hard working animals, capable of working throughout the whole workweek, and under a Godly owner also partaking of the Sabbath's rest, showing that the day of rest was a blessing not only for man, but also for the animal.

Out of all the domesticated animals of mankind, the horse is perhaps most popular transport animal in the world. As soon as people began to appreciate their

value, they quickly began to spread all over the world, from Europe to North Africa, and then from the colonists to the Americas and Australia, where many would escape from human contact and become wild. The horse often became a persons best friend, similiar to how dogs do today. Though it's last appearance as a fighting weapon was during World War 1, the horse nevertheless remains one of the most important beasts of burden.

The first time we read about the horse is in the story of Joseph, when after many years of famine; the Egyptians exchanged their horses for bread:

"And when the money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone." So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys." (Genesis 47:15-17)

It would seem that Egyptians had a large stock of horses, since one of the qualifications of a king in Israel would be that he could not be an Egyptian horse trader, nor amass horses for himself, because his trust would quickly turn from God to these useful animals (Deuteronomy 17:16). And sadly that is exactly what King Solomon did:

"And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem."(1 Kings 10:26)

Solomon, like all believers should remember the Holy Spirit inspired words of King David:

"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright." (Psalm 20:7-8)

Chapter 31

"Is it by your understanding that the hawk soars and spreads his wings toward the south?"(Job 39:26)

A hawk, like most migratory birds waits for a strong passage of cold front, because cold fronts create a strong north-south winds which is perfect for the direction that these birds want to travel. The hawk will often wait for such favorable weather conditions, to take off with a flock of its own brethren. These often start migrating during the autumn season on their way to Africa.

All anyone has to do is observe how all migratory birds instinctively know where to migrate, and avian flight quickly becomes a scientific miracle. With thousands of birds in the air performing their "air dance", and in our human understanding of things, there is no leader or any sort of conductor to tell the birds when to turn, when to be at an exact distance apart, or someone to provide a warning to control their speed. And yet there are no "bird" jams or crashes!

Recognizing their migration times, birds are more careful in observing God’s “Holy convocations" than even God's people!

"Even the stork in the heavens knows her times, and the turtledove, swallow, and crane keep the time of their coming, but my people know not the rules of the Lord." (Jeremiah 8:7)

What these migratory birds have to accomplish is simply a miracle from God.
Often going to a place they had never been before, without any sort education or training they have to traverse 2,000 to 3,000 miles of open ocean without any maps and many of the mechanical instruments that we are so privileged to have.

It took many years for science to fully appreciate migratory patterns of birds, but God's people knew it all the way back in the book of Exodus, for it was then when God used large flocks of quail to deliver bread from heaven (Exodus 16:13, Psalm 105:40, Numbers 11:30-31).
These tiny birds would make their intercontinental journey from Africa all the way to Eurasia!

The general location of Israel would make such flights relatively low risk, because the narrow flight path of the birds can make following their journey much easier, as they can start from the eastern end of Mediterranean, then going south to eventually arrive in Northern Africa.

God gave the birds the instinct to where to migrate, but He gave His people much more: a spirit within to hear God's voice and understand His word.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Since we are all made in the image of God, we ought to be as obedient to as birds are to their natural instinct. The magnificent hawk has been witnessing on it's God given flight path, likewise Christians should be witnesses on whatever place God has called them to "migrate" to.

Chapter 32

"Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up and makes his nest on high? On the rock he dwells and makes his home, on the rocky crag and stronghold. From there he spies out the prey; his eyes behold it from far away. His young ones suck up blood, and where the slain are, there is he."
(Job 39:27-30)

The 18th century poet William Blake wisely observed *"When thou seest an Eagle, thou seest a portion of Genius. lift up thy head!"*
Anyone with an honest heart towards the truth can see the genius of God in His creation, showcasing clear evidence of design and purpose.

The Hebrew word used here "nesher" could mean an imperial eagle or most likely a griffon-vulture. To the ancient peoples of the time, without binoculars it was almost impossible to distinguish an eagle from a vulture. but God here provides for us extra clues to overcome language limits of the people.

Because of internal biblical evidence that this bird's young like to hang out with the dead (Job 39:30), it is quite plausible that God is here speaking about a Vulture. Since the Eagle is in the same Accipitridae

family as the Hawk mentioned in the previous verse, it would be less redundant to interpret this as a Vulture, who comes from the Cathartidae family.
Whatever the case might be, both the Eagle and the Vulture are remarkably in great size and strength: *"You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles wings and brought you to myself." (Exodus 19:4)*

In the book of Obadiah, we read about the edomites, who like eagles lived in rugged mountains, but unlike eagles thought they could rebel against God, believing themselves to be invincible, looking down from great heights at the nations below them:

"The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, in your lofty dwelling, who say in your heart, "Who will bring me down to the ground?" Though you soar aloft like the eagle, though your nest is set among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the Lord ."
Obadiah 1:3-4

God reminds them and us... *that "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud. Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord." (Proverbs 16:18-20)*

Chapter 33

"Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it."
(Job 40:2)

There are two Hebrew words to describe someone who is "Almighty":

El = A typical pagan name for god, means "the strong one" used by other Semitic cultures to refer to their gods. El is used in names such as Israe-el (they who wrestle with God), Beth-EL (House of God), amd EL-isha (God is salvation)

Elohim = Is the plural form of El, signifying the triune nature of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, is God's relational name and is found over 2,300 times in the bible, and was mentioned in the first verse ever of the Bible.

The word that's used here in Job is "El Shaddai" and it's God's covenant name He used to make with Abraham. It is the highest and ultimate name that could be attributed to our Lord, and refers to God being bigger than all of our problems, like a mountain is taller than us.

The word "faultfinder", means someone who purposely searches for mistakes of others because they're looking for something to criticize.

It is an attribute of the Devil, who is the chief of all faultfinders, when our Lord told the Devil to notice righteous Job, he found fault with Almighty God and said:

"Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "Does Job fear God for no reason? Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face." (Job 1:9-11)

He made it look like that Job was righteous only because God made his life easy. Satan was so sharp-eyed he could see what Jesus refers to as a "speck", a speck that was never there in the first place.

God has now finished the first round of the wrestling match with job, he has asked all the questions, and now Job must give him the answers.

We will all have to answer to God someday, let us start trusting Him today, for God is trustworthy.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord , and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones." (Proverbs 3:5-8)

Chapter 34

"Then Job answered the Lord and said: "Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth." (Job 40:3-4)

Job previously said:
"I would give him an account of all my steps; like a prince I would approach him." (Job 31:37)

But now Job says "Behold", what Job is doing here is calling attention to his conclusion to his chat with God:

"I'm small."

That is what he says, he does not feel like a prince now, does he? The phrase "small account" can be interpreted as unworthy, which also has the meaning of small or insignificant. It's the opposite of the word "glory" "kavode" which means light and airy, jobs has talked about his glory before, like he was a respected man, of dignity, and blessing.
Job thought he was bigger, stronger, and wiser, but now his mind has changed, his ego smashed and has become nothing before God.

It's easy to feel unworthy when confronting the almighty God. Especially when our sins catch up with us.

Job might of felt unworthy of God's love, but that was far from the truth, because God loved Job.
God is not the kind of person to use others and throw them aside.

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name" (Philippians 2:5-7, 9)

Jesus made Himself unworthy, because He knows you are worthy, worth dying for. Worthy of complete forgiveness of sins, and having eternal life!

Oh, praise the Lord for victory,
From death to life He lifted me;
By His great love and pow'r divine
Eternal life is truly mine.
Now in God's Son I have a part,
Eternal life within my heart.
Ulysses Philiips (1949)

Chapter 35

"Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but I will proceed no further."
Job 40:4-5 ESV

Previously Job had posed many questions to God. In chapter 10 he said:

"I will say to God, Do not condemn me; let me know why you contend against me. Does it seem good to you to oppress, to despise the work of your hands and favor the designs of the wicked? Have you eyes of flesh? Do you see as man sees? Are your days as the days of man, or your years as a man's years." (Job 10:2-5)

Job has wanted to put God into the interrogation chair, but it was God who was now interrogating him! In chapters 38-39 there are about 40 questions that God asks of Job, and the point of every question was to show that God is much greater and far bigger than Job. It was to put Job where he belongs, humble and at the feet of God. God had a shrinking effect on Job, and in the presence of majesty and greatness, Job here bows before God in still silence, admitting that he had said far too much.

According to the book of Revelation and its description of heaven, our experience will be in a similar fashion that Job experienced here:

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:3-4)

The new heaven and new earth will finally have an abiding presence of God, we will finally experience the joy that is to sit at Jesus' feet as the disciples did, but not only that, the new heaven and new earth will have eternal comfort, as tears caused by grief and pain will forever disappear.

There is no denying that Job had suffered a lot, and lost a lot. And it is so important to see that Job was a victim, but the lesson here was that God has a purpose for suffering.

God did not give Job all his answers, and likewise God will not give us all the answers to our questions. But He does give is Himself. He gives a relationship that no one can ever match or compete with.

And when that situation comes when we cannot understand everything that happens in our world, we must trust and obey. God was teaching Job to focus not on the questions, or the "why", but on the "who".

In our difficult times of suffering, God wants us also to look the Him who is in total and sovereign control of everything.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord , and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones." (Proverbs 3:5-8)

Faith often is at its brightest when life looks its darkest.

Chapter 36

"Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: "Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be in the right?"
Job 40:6-14

The definition of anxiety is an inappropriate response due to some difficult circumstance. And that was Job, in a time of great pain and suffering Job committed a horrible sin, and God here calls him out on this: Job condemned God in order to justify himself. In the process of searching out "why is this happening to me?" and not finding out the answer, righteous Job turns into a frustrated Job who then decided to make his OWN answer: he declared God to be guilty.

"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil." (Ephesians 4:26-27)

And that is when Job understood that he went too far. Righteous Job suddenly lost all his creditability, and made God angry. Job forgot that "Satan tempts us to get the worst out of us; God tests us to get the best out of us."

"Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take advice." (Proverbs 13:10)

Job declared God to be guilty in order to be right, he implied that he could run things better than God and God now challenges him to a contest of who is more righteous? This was going to be a big blow to Job's pride.

Job was undoubtedly in a lot of stress and frustration, but the wrong way to handle life's challenges is worry about them, letting our concerns take over our spiritual life and make us sin. Like Job, we can lose hope and enter into a path of rebellion.

Job needed to learn a lesson, but let us not forget we do also. All of us believe we have needs, but we don't know exactly what is good for us, only God does. Victory over temptation is not a product of our natural willpower, it is a divine gift from the Holy Spirit:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, ...self-control" (Galatians 5:22-25)

Often in our weakness the natural human spirit cries out for the Holy Spirit’s help and strength.

Chapter 37

The two tannīn of Job

1. Behemoth

What is the Biblical view of dinosaurs? Did Dragons really exist? And whatever really happened to these remarkable creatures?

There are actually a few other times when a monster very similar to a Behemoth is mentioned.

1. The monster Rahab is mentioned alongside Levithan in Isaiah 27, it is quite possible that this "Dragon" is Behemoth.

"In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea." (Isaiah 27:1)

The Hebrew word translated here for the dragon is "Rahab"

God previously attributed this name to describe the nation of Egypt, illustrating it as ferocious sea-monster

who tried to stop the Israelites from crossing the sea (Isaiah 51:9, Psalm 87:4; 89:10).

"Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord ; awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago. Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces, who pierced the dragon? Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over?" (Isaiah 51:9-10)

God is saying here remember what He did when Satan led Egypt to try and destroy Israel as in the days of old. He cut him to pieces.

The name Rahab means "large or "massive," while Leviathan means "twisted" or "coiled."

With those terms defined it becomes a little bit clearer to see how this Levithan-Rahab symbolizes the power of oppression that is against Israel.

2. The Serpent of Aaron

In Exodus 4:3, 30 God first showcased His power to Moses and later to Israel through Aaron by turning his staff into a snake and a serpent.

The snake in Moses hand is called in Hebrew a Nāhāsh meaning a regular snake, but what Aaron had was a different Hebrew word, Tannīn.

The Old Testament uses this word tannīn a couple of times to describe a terrifying reptile! Depending on the context—a crocodile, sea monster, or dragon. The Greek Old Testament (Septuagint) uses the Greek word "Drakon".

The O.T Prophets used the words Rahab and Tannīn metaphorically to describe the Kings of pagan nations that disliked Israel, including Pharaoh, whom they thought to be a great Dragon (Ezek. 29:3; 32:2).

"speak, and say, Thus says the Lord God : "Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lies in the midst of his streams, that says, 'My Nile is my own; I made it for myself.'" (Ezekiel 29:3)

Scientist from every part of the world have found these amazing intricately designed skeletons that we now refer to as Dinosaurs. They could possibly be a species of the Tannīn, of whom the Behemoth was one of.

So what can we find out based on a cursory reading of the text in Job?
For one, the Hebrew word for behemoth means gigantic beast, the grammatical composition of this

plural word might indicate that it's a description of the strongest animal possible to exist.

"He eats grass like an ox." (Job 40:15)
He is a herbivore, means he eats grass.

"Behold, his strength in his loins, and his power in the muscles of his belly." (Job 40:16)
He has huge abdominal regions in his body

"He makes his tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together." (Job 40:17)
He is an animal that had a tail so gigantic that it was like a tree that he dragged behind his body.

"His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron." (Job 40:18)
Most likely his scales are joined together to form a very strong and durable armor.

"He is the first of the works of God; let him who made him bring near his sword!" (Job 40:19)

On day 5 of creation week, just after creating the sun and the moon *"God created the great sea creatures (The Tannim) and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1:21)*

"For the mountains yield food for him where all the wild beasts play." (Job 40:20)

The Dino were not mammals, for a creature with such a size would have to eat over 3000 pounds of food a day to survive! But actually it is a cold blooded reptile, in scientific terms it's an ectotherms. This means that their body temperature depends upon outside heat, it increases or decreases based on the temperature of the air.
The outside skin covering which includes a slightly wet skin and scales , this helps them to adjust to the varying temperatures around them.
But along with that , they have an amazing appetite, similar to that of a crocodile where because of their slow metabolism are able survive for one year without eating.

Dinosaur fossil sites been discovered on every continent, from the Arctic Ocean, to as far as Antarctica. Along with fossils, much evidence of dinosaur trails and tracks have been found all over the world. Most archaeologists and researchers believe that the dinosaurs died due to a global catastrophe. Biblically the only catastrophe of the scale is described in Genesis 6-9, which is the flood of Noah.

Due to this evidence surviving in the post-flood world it consequently produced the many dragon traditions that we find throughout history.
As recent in history as 1500 AD a European textbook on animals known as “Historiua Animalium”, written by Conrad Gessner had a list of five living animals that we know as dinosaurs today.

Based on internal Biblical evidence and external scientific examination of the facts, it appears that the Behemoth was a large Reptile dragon that in the end times will hang around with an even greater dragon satan, representing the evil being known as the anti-Christ, known as the first beast in Revelation 13:

"And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth....And they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?" (Revelation 13:1-2, 4)

2. Leviathan

In this text we are introduced to a creature called “Leviathan” , God vividly and in a detailed manner described an enormous serpent. There can be little doubt that all of these attributes revealed to us by God are used to describe Satan , simply because they perfectly fit what we read in the book of Revelation:

"And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him."
(Revelation 12:9)

Examining this passage carefully in Job we see God describing the "Leviathan" in Job
as something that is much more than any zoological creature and is metaphorically describing a harmful evil spirit.

"He sees everything that is high; he is king over all the sons of pride." (Job 41:34)

This secondary type of description is repeatedly used to describe the background and career of Satan. He was the first angelic being to rebel against God:

"Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you." (Ezekiel 28:17)

He is also represented as the "The Dragon".

"And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years," (Revelation 20:2)

The Hebrew word used in Genesis for the serpent is Hannahash, and some scholars believe it has 2 meanings, as a noun it means serpent or snake, but as an adjective it means "shining one". This fits perfectly with how the Bible describes satan elsewhere:
"How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star (Lucifer/Shining one), son of Dawn! (Isaiah 14:12)

This identification with the "dragon serpent" is also revealed in the prophecies in the O.T:

"In that day the Lord with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea." (Isaiah 27:1)

There is much biblical evidence that this wicked serpent was actively fighting Moses when God parted the red sea:

"You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters. You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness." (Psalm 74:13-14)

Going verse by verse through Job we get to see more parallels between Leviathan and the Ancient Serpent of old, in many cases showing that man has no ability to fight it, but God certainly does.

1. Cannot be caught by men, only by God
"Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook or press down his tongue with a cord? Can you put a rope in his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook?" (Job 41:1-2)

"And I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed in full armor, a great host, all of them with buckler and shield, wielding swords." (Ezekiel 38:4)

2. Cannot kill it, only the Jesus can bruise it's head
"Can you fill his skin with harpoons or his head with fishing spears?" (Job 41:7)

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15)

3. It's well-built, well-crafter, and well-put together.

"I will not keep silence concerning his limbs, or his mighty strength, or his goodly frame." (Job 41:12)
"Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor." (Ezekiel 28:17)

4. Scales
"His back is made of rows of shields, shut up closely as with a seal. One is so near to another that no air can come between them." (Job 41:15-16)

"I will put hooks in your jaws, and make the fish of your streams stick to your scales; and I will draw you up out of the midst of your streams, with all the fish of your streams that stick to your scales."
Ezekiel 29:4

Conclusion

It is fascinating that in the Book of Revelation, God speaks about two final characters of the history of the world, who are presented as scary beasts that rise out of the sea and land, paralleling the two large creatures described in
the book of Job.

Having finished His first lecture to Job, He now encourages Job by explaining that only God is able to control and eventually destroy the beast known as the Devil. The same Devil that made righteous Job's life a living hell on earth, God will do the same to him who started this whole mess.

"and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."
Revelation 20:10

Chapter 38

"Then Job answered the Lord and said: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." Job 42:1-6

We have finally come to the end of our story in the book of Job.
And in these final verses what we find is a very happy ending, and it's a deserving gift from God to Job.

In every conceivable way, Job was deeply wounded and humbled to incredible lengths. Job had suffered physically when he was afflicted with a terrible disease, he suffered with relationships as he lost his family and friends, emotionally Job was confused and frustrated as to why all of this was happening, and spiritually Job lost sight of God in the midst of pain and suffered because of sin.

God now has spoken to Job, humbling him in the process, an experience that brought Job to the point of repentance.

God by having a purpose for evil, taught Job that suffering exposes our sin, and it's here that Job understood no matter how righteous he is, how good of a believer he is, no matter how much he serves and obeys, there will always be a need of 100 percent reliance on God to live a victorious Christian life.

In everything that happened to Job, God in His divine wisdom used it to reveal idols, patterns of sin that were always there but remained unnoticed, and to teach him to unconditionally trust Him.

When sin comes this separates us from that relationship, and it deceives us into thinking we know everything, and God is not needed anymore. It would be a terrible thing if not for the grace of God to time after time to enter into our lives and welcome us back. This is what happened to Job as the Lord spoke to him:

"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:5-6)

And in all of this God has restored Job, God used what was terrible and made it into something that has

become a blessing. Like a man who believed a lie, Job now hated himself for doubting a good and caring God.

Let us all during hard times search for God's faithfulness, find His love and rejoice in His eternal commitment to us.

At the cross of Jesus Christ, the once broken relationship between God and human beings has finally healed over and the punishment for sin that started all the way in the Garden of Eden has been completely removed.

The Bible never makes small light of human disappointment and tragedy but it does say this: It's temporary. The end of this life on earth for a born again believer in Jesus Christ is just the beginning. What we feel today, we will not always feel. God promises an eternal future of health, peace and never ending pleasure.

"Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." Romans 4:4-5, 7-8

Jesus died to rescue us from our sins and because of that we are the most blessed of people. He rose from the grave and is alive now. Because of this, every wrong thing we've done can be forgiven, and we can have new life today.

And it is all free. We can't buy the new life Jesus offers. We can't even donate toward the cost. It's all a gift. Total forgiveness of sins is freely available to anyone who believes the word of God:

"The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." (John 3:35-36)

Conclusion to Job 38-42

The opening and closing of the book Job display his prosperity in life. Which according to the times he was living in was a happy and fruitful family, a lot of food on the family table, successful farming business that produced much wealth, and faithfulness to God.

But in between there was a painful lesson needed to be learned.
It's during times of great suffering that people think about the meaning of life and death, and Job was no exception to this. In his prosperity, he might of not thought about his purpose in life, and God knew that. Or to be able to relate to others who are suffering, and God knew that also. According to his own words Job in suffering understood what he might of neglected that *"his days are swifter than a runner; they flee away; they see no good. (9:25), and they skimmed past like paper boats and like an eagle swooping on the prey." (9:26).*

Job wrote that being in the presence of death is like being *"uprooted from the shelter of his tent, And they parade him before the king of terrors." (Job 18:14).*

Job also likened death to a harvest (Job 5:26; 24:24), which might explain why many compare death to a “the grim reaper.”

"Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come." (Romans 5:14)

The Apostle Paul when writing the Roman Epistle, explained that death is like a king that “reigned” in this world because of Adam’s sin.

We all on a daily basis experience the damage caused by sin entering our world. Job would not have a happy ending if not for God to step in and repair a broken relationship. Likewise we would also be in a hopeless situation, if not for God entering into our lives.

The last verse in the book of Job says:
"And Job died, an old man, and full of days." (Job 42:17)
Job received much more back than he lost, and so it is with the Christian life today, we have indeed gained much more in the Gospel, the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ than what was lost in the fall of Adam.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have

eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."
John 3:16-17

Jesus crushed sin through the cross and conquered death through His resurrection.
It does not matter how much we have lost because of sin, what we have gained is far more valuable and eternal through the victory of Jesus Christ.

Dedication:

This book is dedicated to my family, Rafik, Mila, and Victor

And to the love of my life, Amy Wong who stayed with me throughout the 2020 Epidemic, though physically far apart, together spiritually in Jesus Christ!